

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

ACADEMIC YEAR 2015/2016

I. Introduction

The Italian Government awards scholarships for studying in Italy both to foreign citizens and Italian citizens resident abroad (IRE). The aim of these scholarships is fostering international cultural cooperation, spreading the Italian language, culture and science knowledge and promoting the economic and technological sectors of Italy all around the world. The list of the countries whose citizens and IRE may apply, is on the *Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation* (MAECI) webpage http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/ministero/servizi/stranieri/opportunita/borsestudio_stranieri.html

A certain number of scholarships (named IRE scholarships) is available for Italian citizens resident abroad only for the following countries: *Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, South Africa, Tunisia, Uruguay and Venezuela.*

Italian citizens, employed at offices of the Italian public administration, as well as their family even if temporarily residing abroad, **are not allowed to apply for IRE Scholarships.**

These Scholarships are offered only for study/research projects at higher education Institutions within the Italian State Education and Research system (State Institutions and research centers, or legally recognized by the competent State authority). The list of these Institutions is on the Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR) webpage: <http://www.istruzione.it/web/universita/home>

It is NOT allowed to apply for study/ research projects at:

- foreign institutions (such as universities, academies, libraries, schools of any kind) even if they operate in Italy;
- Centers or research laboratories not legally recognized by the competent State authority

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation also offers Scholarships to foreign students for so-called “Special Projects” (please check the dedicated section at the following address: http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/ministero/servizi/stranieri/opportunita/borsestudio_stranieri.html).

II. Scholarship duration and time frame

The scholarship duration can be **three, six, or nine months.**

Only for *Courses for teachers of Italian language* the scholarship duration is **one month.**

Time frame: **January 1st - December 31th 2016.**

According to the Agreement between Italy and Libya, the scholarship duration for Libyan citizens will be **12 months, starting from October 1st 2015**

Detailed information regarding the scholarship offer, can be requested to the Italian Embassy or Italian Cultural Institute in the applicant's country of citizenship. (<http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/ministero/laretediplomatica/>)

Air tickets are not granted, except for Chilean citizens. For all relevant information, please contact the Italian Embassy in Chile.

III. Courses for which it is possible to apply for a scholarship and required qualifications

No scholarships are offered for:

- **Single university course**
- **Research project**
- **Undergraduate University courses, except for renewals (please see point A of section III).**

The scholarships are offered for the following type of courses:

A. Undergraduate University courses (Laurea Triennale - 1° ciclo e a ciclo unico). RENEWALS ONLY

Requirements:

This type of scholarship is offered only to candidates who in the academic year 2014-15 received a scholarship to attend an Undergraduate Course (*Laurea Triennale* or *Corso di Laurea a Ciclo Unico*), and in the academic year 2015-16 will enroll at least for the second year of the same course. The renewal is subject to verification of the student's academic achievements.

B. Postgraduate University courses (Laurea Magistrale - 2° ciclo)

Requirements:

Admission to the first year of a Postgraduate course requires a Bachelor's Degree or equivalent recognized foreign qualification; for enrolment/admission after the first year, the scholarship-holder is required to have passed the university exams of the previous year.

C. Master's Degree courses (Levels I or II)

Requirements:

For admission, the candidate must have the academic qualification required for the chosen Master course.

It is the candidate's responsibility to contact the chosen Institution in order to be informed on the activation of the master, the schedule and the other requirements for registration. If the course includes a period of study in a country other than Italy, payment of the scholarship will be suspended for that period.

Please note: a master course might be eventually canceled or it might be activated with delays. The scholarship will be paid only if the master course is activated and only for the months of confirmed registration of the applicant to the master course.

D. Ph.D. Courses.

Requirements:

For admission, the candidate must have the academic qualification required for the chosen Ph.D. course. It is the candidate's responsibility to contact the chosen Institute in order to be informed on the activation of the course, the schedule and the other requirements for registration. If the course includes a period of study in a country other than Italy, payment of the scholarship will be suspended for that period.

Please note: a Ph.D. course might be eventually canceled or it might be activated with delays. The scholarship will be paid only if the Ph.D. course is activated and only for the months of confirmed registration of the applicant to the Ph.D. course.

E. Specialisation Schools (Scuole di Specializzazione)

Requirements:

For admission, the candidate must have the academic qualification required for the chosen School. It is the candidate's responsibility to contact the chosen School in order to be informed on the activation and schedule of the course, and the other eventual requirements of registration.

Specialization schools of medical disciplines are not eligible to get a scholarship.

F. Research under academic supervision (Progetti di Studio in co-tutela)

Requirements:

in order to apply for this type of scholarship, the candidate must submit the research project and the letters of acceptance from the host Institution. The research project must be carried out within the Italian State Education and Research System, including public museums and archives, and institutions as CNR (*Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche*) and ISS (*Istituto Superiore di Sanità*).

G. Courses of Higher Education in Art, Music and Dance (AFAM), *Scuola Internazionale di Liuteria di Cremona; Scuola di Alta Formazione e Studio (SAF) of the Istituto Superiore per la Conservazione ed il Restauro (ISCR), and Scuola Nazionale di Cinema*

Requirements:

- For admission to Courses of Higher Education in Art, Music and Dance (AFAM) and to the Scuola Internazionale di Liuteria di Cremona, candidates must possess a High school Diploma or a title valid locally for admission to Academies of Fine Arts or Conservatories of Music. It is the candidate's responsibility to contact the chosen Institute/ Institution in order to be informed on any other possible requirements for the admission. The list of the **AFAM institutes** can be seen on the Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (MIUR) webpage <http://www.afam.miur.it/argomenti/istituzioni.aspx>
- For admission to *Scuola di Alta Formazione e Studio (SAF)* of the *Istituto Superiore per la Conservazione ed il Restauro (ISCR)* and to *Scuola Nazionale di Cinema*, candidates must possess a High school Diploma valid locally and pass an Admission test. It is the candidate's responsibility to be informed on the schedule of the Entrance test and on any other possible requirements.

H. Advanced Courses on Italian language and culture (ONLY THREE MONTHS DURATION).

Requirements:

This type of scholarship is eligible only for students who have passed at least one university exam of Italian Language in their own country. At the end of the course, the student is expected to achieve at least a B1 Level of Italian proficiency, attested by a certificate such as CILS, CELI, PLIDA o IT Roma Tre.

This type of scholarship is offered only for courses of three months duration.

No scholarships are offered for Beginners course.

A payment of **University tuition fees** is required: scholarship-holders are eligible for a discount.

It is the candidate's responsibility to contact the chosen Institution in order to be informed on the course schedule and university tuition fees.

I. Courses for Teachers of Italian as second language (ONLY ONE MONTH DURATION):

Requirements:

For this type of scholarship, applicants must be teachers of Italian as second language with documented experience. The scholarship duration of this type of course is **one month**. A payment of **University tuition fees** is required: scholarship-holders are eligible for a discount. It is the candidate's responsibility to contact the chosen Institution in order to be informed on the activation and schedule of the course and university tuition fees.

Candidates may apply for a renewal to continue or complete a multi-year course. Upon decision of the selection committee, **a renewal can be granted only if the applicant has passed the exams required in the previous year. No scholarship renewals are offered for students exceeding the legal duration of the course of study.**

Normally, the scholarship holders are exempt from the payment of the university tuition fees, in accordance with existing regulations.

However the Universities, as part of their autonomy, **may not allow such exemption.**

Candidates are therefore recommended to contact the chosen Institution in order to be informed on eventual taxes or tuition fees.

IV. Other Requirements

- **Educational qualifications** required by the chosen institution (please see section III)
- **Knowledge of Italian Language**: candidates **must** possess a certificate of intermediate level in Italian (e.g. CILS B2, CELI 3, PLIDA B2 or INT.IT Roma Tre) or equivalent linguistic proficiency issued by a local organization or language school (e.g. Italian Cultural Institute, Dante Alighieri Society branch etc.). Applicants for enrolment in university courses held entirely in English, must have at least an A2 level proficiency in Italian.
- **Age limits**: candidates who are younger than **18 y. o.** or older than **35 y. o.** on the day of the deadline for the submission of the applications (13-05-2015), are not eligible. Candidates for **Courses for teachers of Italian as second language** (see above, section III, letter I) are eligible until they are 45 y. o. on the day of the deadline for the submission of the applications (13-05-2015).
- **Restrictions**: Students enrolled in a year exceeding the legal duration of the course of study (the so-called “fuori corso”) are not eligible for scholarships.

V. Agreements between the MAECI and some Universities

For the academic year 2015-2016, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has signed agreements with some Italian Universities in order to simplify enrollment and administrative procedures. Thanks to these agreements, the following universities will pay the scholarship holders directly through a shortened and simplified procedure (please see *Regolamento del borsista* which can be downloaded from the following link: http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/ministero/servizi/stranieri/opportunita/borsestudio_stranieri.html: Politecnico di Milano; Politecnico di Torino; Università Ca' Foscari di Venezia; Università Commerciale Luigi Bocconi di Milano; Università degli studi di Torino; Università degli studi di Milano; Università degli studi di Bologna; Università degli studi di Roma Tor Vergata; Università Roma Tre; Università per stranieri di Perugia; Università per stranieri di Siena; Università per stranieri “Dante Alighieri” di Reggio Calabria.

VI. Applications

- **How to apply**: All applicants must fill in the on-line application form at “Borse on Line” at http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/ministero/servizi/stranieri/opportunita/borsestudio_stranieri.html

- **Deadline for all applications:** Application forms must be submitted on-line by 00:00 am (Italian time) on **Wednesday, May 13th 2015**. Applicants will be notified via email of the reception of their application.

VII. Selection of candidates

In each country, the **selection of candidates will be made by** a Selection Committee appointed by the Italian Embassy in the candidate's country.

VIII. Health (and accident) insurance

For the sole period of the scholarship granted by the Italian Government, the scholarship -holders are covered by an insurance policy against illness and/or accident.

IX. Incompatibility

To be eligible to receive a MAECI Scholarship, candidates must not be concurrently in receipt of another scholarship offered by the Italian Government.

For more information **regarding duties and responsibilities of Scholarship-holders in Italy**, please see *Regolamento del borsista* which can be downloaded from the following link:
http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/ministero/servizi/stranieri/opportunita/borsestudio_stranieri.html.

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